

PEROSTYLUS, A NEW GENUS OF FUSOID GASTROPOD.

BY H. A. PILSBRY.

In volume IX of the Manual of Conchology, Mr. Tryon described and figured a shell from Port Darwin, N. Australia, as *Cerithium* (*Colina*) *Brazieri*. Having occasion recently to study a large number of *C. macrostoma* Hinds, the type of the subgenus *Colina*, I was at once struck by the notable difference between this species and *C. Brazieri*. The latter does not seem to belong to the *Cerithiidae* at all, much less to the group *Colina*. I am more inclined to view it as an aberrant type of the *Fusidae*, although only a knowledge of the operculum and dentition can decide the question. The new group may be thus diagnosed :

PEROSTYLUS n. g. *Gen. Char.*: Shell cylindrical or pillar-shaped, thin, with decollated apex like that of a *Rumina* or *Cylindrella*; last whorl but little wider than the spire; aperture small, shaped like that of *Fusus* or *Chrysodomus* (*Sipho*), produced in an open canal below; columella straight or sinuous, without folds; outer lip thin and fragile. Type *Cerithium* (*Colina*) *Brazieri* Tryon.

The decollation of the spire is not the result of erosion, as in the species of *Potamides* and *Melaniidae*, nor is the apex filled with a thick solid mass of shell-tissue as in those groups. In *Perostylus* the structure is like that of *Rumina decollata* or the West Indian *Cylindrellas*.

The genus will consist for the present of two species.

P. Brazieri Tryon.

Shell cylindrical, white, fragile, hardly tapering, consisting of $6\frac{1}{2}$ remaining whorls, each carinated and obtusely nodulous in the middle, and obsoletely spirally lirate. Last whorl with one or two spiral cords below the peripheral keel, and more distinctly spirally lirate, the base nearly smooth. Aperture one-third the length of the shell; outer lip thin and fragile, columellar lip distinctly sigmoid, smooth. Alt 21, diam.



6 mm.

Habitat, Port Darwin, N. Australia (John Brazier).

If this shell could be reproduced in the form it would have were the earlier whorls not decollated, it would be by all odds the most attenuated Gastropod known, surpassing even the *Terebras* in the number of its slowly increasing whorls. The numerous young shells

before me fully support this opinion. Unfortunately none of them are young enough to show the apex. The youngest of them, although not half the diameter of the adult, show the same almost imperceptible degree of tapering.

P. Fordianus Pilsbry.



Shell cylindrical, white, thin; spire hardly tapering, but last whorl notably wider. Remaining whorls $4\frac{1}{2}$, sculptured as in the last species, but the next-to-the-last whorl is distinctly narrower than the preceding whorl. Aperture nearly one-half the length of the shell; outer lip thin, simple; columella straight, a trifle deflected toward the left below. Alt. 19, diam. $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Habitat unknown. The specimens were presented to the Academy by Mr. John Ford.

This species is distinguished from the preceding by its straight, not sigmoid columella, and by the fewer remaining whorls. As the last character might possibly be the result of greater age, I do not now attach much importance to it, although it will probably prove to be a constant specific feature.

SOUTHERN SHELLS IN MISSOURI.

BY F. A. SAMPSON, SEDALIA, MO.

In the March *Nautilus* there is a reference to *Helicina orbiculata* having been collected in Stone county, Missouri, "probably near its northern limits." I have it in my collection from three other counties in Missouri: Jasper, Barry, and Macdonald, all of them being near the southern line of the state.

Of some other southern species I have specimens from places further north, a list of which is here given:

Bulimulus dealbatus Say, from the counties of Macdonald, Barry, Douglas, Camden and Cooper, the two latter being in the central part of the state.

Polygyra triodontoides Bland, from Barry.

P. jacksoni Bland, from Jasper, Barry, Macdonald, Dade and Camden.

P. dorfeuilliana Lea, from Howell and Douglas.